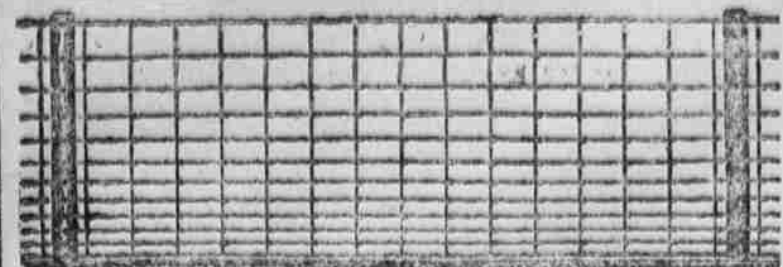


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KLINE BROS. Enterprise, Ohio

A SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

[This is a pleasing story, upon which The Colliers Co. awarded first prize. It is written by A. E. Faine of New Straitsville, describing his town's people. We acknowledge due courtesy to the Straitsville Record for a reproduction of the story.]

Surrounded by high hills denuded of timber and left with an impoverished soil is located the little mining town of New Straitsville, Ohio.

Life in our town is different from life in most towns, yet very similar to all other mining communities. The one essential difference between this and an agricultural or manufacturing center is the lack of caste. The only knock required to gain admission to any of our homes is the one of character. That is the passport universally recognized here. We are all poor, and, consequently on a level, there not being a single rich family in our midst.

Our population numbering 2500 souls is made up of the very best blood produced by Europe and America: Scotch, Irish, Welsh, English, German and native Americans; native in the sense that their grand-parents were born in this country. The usual riff-raff of many mining towns is not tolerated here, but one negro family, no Hungarians, Italians, Bohemians or other Europeans reputed to be against the best ideals of good Americans, are to be found.

The only means of sustenance is the mining of coal and clay; arduous labor requiring workers to go under the ground in the dark, away from the benign influence of all nature; no sun to kiss their faces, no gentle zephyr to cool their cheeks, no rustle of the leaves to charm their ears, no flowers to please their eyes, and no woman to admire their courage, to nod approval of faithful toil or soften their lot by an appreciative smile.

The miner works no more than eight hours in one day and the demand for his product gives less than six months employment out of each year. Here the Roosevelt idea is in vogue, the average family numbering six, for which the average wage is about four hundred dollars per year. Such incomes don't allow of much extravagance and does not produce social scandal among the idle.

Next to the lack of caste our most marked characteristic is that of charity; universal help to all afflicted in our midst. The miners' union requires a burial fund to see that their dead are properly interred. When the hour of affliction comes, when the only son or head of the family is sick or injured, a committee makes the rounds and all contribute until the suffering ones are relieved. The lessons of frugality are not well learned, the spirit of make much, spend much, is very prevalent, so that when the idle season comes many are soon without means of sustenance. The merchants of the town are called upon and credit is given them until work begins again. Those who get hopelessly in debt move away and the "dead-beat" is abroad in the land, even among mining towns so that the merchant's profits are eaten up and he is on a level with the miner and not much more than a living is

left for him. Our town has four churches and eight saloons well supported and patronized. Six months of idleness each year demands a loafing place and the saloon keepers appreciate the situation.

Illiteracy is at the minimum and the general intelligence of a high order. The daily press keeps our people in close touch with the progress of events so that the questions of the day are always under discussion. It is the ambition of every parent to make his children's chances better than his own and education and the chances for it are much appreciated.

Although thirty-five years old our town is very much the same now as in the early days, the sons follow in the footsteps of their fathers and the laws of environment produce universal results, as the father, so is the son.

Our more progressive citizens are appreciating the situation and are solving the problem of idleness and its baneful influence on the young. A public library building has been donated by our leading citizens and is now filled with 2000 volumes of choice books. A club house and its equipment costing \$12,500 has been erected. Here is provided a gymnasium, a dancing pavilion, pool and billiard tables, a bowling alley, bath, music room with piano, lounge room and a reading room supplied with the best of our current magazines. Here the young people assemble in social gaiety and life for them has already begun to assume larger proportions. For the past half-dozen years a lecture and entertainment course has been given in our opera house and is liberally patronized. Some of the best talent in music, science and literature that our country produces is found on our platform.

Many of our people who have lived here for twenty-five years and whose ambition is to better the chances of their children move away to some commercial center. Here they find employment at a better wage, but they come back. They have lived too long in a neighborhood where every man is his brother and his friend to adapt himself to new social conditions. Caste is unknown to him, inequality never recognized; so they come back while the younger members stay in their new surroundings and adapt themselves to it. A social democracy unknown in other sections here reigns supreme.

Political economists lay down the rule that prosperity and content will come only to those centers that afford a diversity of pursuits that will provide employment for all its people. Yet here is a little inland hamlet with but one industry that provides labor for its male members but one half of each year that is unequaled anywhere in the world for content and social happiness. The cause of this condition is the fact that we have no caste, that every man earns his bread by the sweat of his brow and that we have no other ambition than to be able to work for a competence. A. E. FAINE, New Straitsville, Ohio. Feb. 25, 1908.

THEATRICAL COMMENTS

Mr. Harry Sells leaves shortly for Peru, Ind., to join the Hagenback and Wallace Circus.

The Barnum & Bailey Show will open at Madison Square Garden, New York, on the 19th.

Here's a "hot" one: An actor after registering at a certain hotel put the customary question.—Do you make theatrical rates? The clerk said we used to, but the hotel just burned down.

Richard Carle in his new play, "Mary's Lamb," has caught on at the Illinois Theatre in Chicago, and it looks as though the run would extend throughout the summer months.

Nelsonville boasts of three moving picture shows. Not bad for our little sister city. W. S. Stuart is the owner of two, and the other one is owned by a foreigner.

There is some talk of another moving picture show being opened in Logan shortly by local parties. 'Tis understood a 10c. vaudeville theatre will run in connection. Logan loves to be amused.

Barnum and Bailey have an invocation this season in a female coven, and they have also done away with a side show of freaks.

Mr. Doc Waddell, well-known in Logan, goes out this season with the Sells and Floto Circus.

Will we pass through another season without a circus? Were we fortunate or unfortunate?

An excellent likeness of Miss Lillian Goodwin, leading lady in the East Lynne Co., which played an engagement here Monday night, adorned one of the pages of the popular "Red Book."

Mr. Orpie Read, the well-known and popular lecturer and writer, is to fill an engagement here soon. This will be a rare treat for the Logan people.

Manager Koppe is contemplating putting in a large lot to use for scenic productions. This will be welcome news to the theatre going public. One thing sure, our people are proud of our cosy little Opera House, and the management is considered one of the best in Ohio. He gives the people their choice of plays.

So many people complain about the rise and fall of prices for the different attractions. The local manager has nothing at all to do with the prices, that is all a contract of which the manager has no control.

Melodramatic stunts must be stored away for all time to come. Patrons of the theatre are being tired and disgusted with pistol variety shows.

The San Carlo Grand Opera Co. will soon play a two day engagement in Columbus. Alice Nielson is the bright particular star in the cast. Miss Nielson is well remembered by the Loganites for her clever work in the "Fortune Teller."

Otis Skinner will be seen shortly in a new play called "The Honor of the Family."

"Molly Bawn," a play from the "Dutches book, has just been dramatized.

Joe Cawthorn, well-known in Logan, through his funny antics in "Little Nugget," has gone to the front ranks in recent years. He is featured with Elsie Janis in "The Hoyden" this season, and making a tremendous hit.

The old Chestnut St. Theatre at Lancaster will change hands the coming season. Manager Cutter will step down and out, and the new managers, Messrs. Nixon and Zimmerman, well-known theatrical magnets, will manage same. Lancaster will in due time see a very pretty remodeled theatre, and nothing but high class attractions will be booked.

Stuarts Opera House at Nelsonville has been sold to a Mr. Robbins. 'Tis understood that Will Stuart will continue the management. Will is a hustler and has had some of the best attractions on the road play his theatre. Nelsonville is considered one of the best night stands in Ohio.

Chas. Smith, shoe salesman for Stedem & Co., is becoming famous for his clever acting. "Foot Lights" has information to the effect that he will soon enter the

vaudeville field with a well-known actress in a sketch written by himself, entitled "What can be Done Under a Hat." We wish Charley all the good luck in the world, for he is indeed deserving. He is a clean cut little gentleman, and his polished acting is sure to attract the big ones in the theatrical field.

East Lynne, which played an engagement here on Monday night of this week to a fair sized audience, gave absolute satisfaction. The star, Miss Goodwin, was very clever, and her support was fair.

W. B. Patton in the "Slow Poke" comes April 9th. He will play to a packed house, as his play is a good one, and as an actor he has few equals on the American stage. Next season he will play a new piece written by himself, called "The Blockhead."

George M. Cohan outdid himself when he wrote, composed and staged "The Honeymooners," which opens at the Southern Theatre on Wednesday, March 25. He gave the song play a snappy exciting plot crowded with logical complications, he wrote humorous dialogue, composed a score of song hits, worked out a dozen delightful dances for two score pretty girls and then finding out what a good thing he had produced played it himself all last summer at the New Amsterdam Theatre, New York and played to capacity when the thermometer was at its highest.

"The Honeymooners" is on the road with the New York production and a classy Broadway company which includes a score of favorites. There are love, politics and rollicking farcicality in "The Honeymooners."

Mr. Henry W. Savage's English Grand Opera Company in last season's great success, "Madam Butterfly" is booked for a return engagement at the Southern Theatre on Thursday, March 26. Mr. Savage had intended to take "Madam Butterfly" off the road this season, but the requests for return engagements were so many and so urgent that he finally abandoned the idea of giving a repertoire of opera in English and this season is again introducing his notable singers in the celebrated and fascinating Puccini work. While Mr. Savage has retained his great orchestra of fifty musicians as well as the same magnificent scenic production that helped to make famous the New York engagement, he will introduce here many new principals, in the leading roles of the Opera. Among the "Madam Butterfly" prima donnas may be mentioned Miss Rena Vivienne, Miss Paoloe Strakosch, a gifted niece of the noted Adelina Patti; Miss Elizabeth Wolf, a talented German prima donna, and Miss Dora De Philippe, who was especially engaged by Mr. Savage after she had returned to the Opera Comique at Paris. FOOT LIGHTS.

Great enthusiasm is being manifested in the local High School circles over the approaching contest between the two literary societies of the High School to be held at the Opera House on the evening of March 27. These societies were organized early in the year and had done much toward developing the spirit of school pride and of personal responsibility, on the part of the pupils, for a higher standard of literary work. The students were divided as equally as possible into two societies. They are equal in number from each class, in number of boys and girls, in total, and as well as could be estimated by teachers and pupils, equal in literary and musical talents. They elect their own officers, formed their own constitution and by-laws, arrange their own programs through the medium of Program Committees elected by the students.

The work is, however, under the general supervision of the teachers, who offer suggestions, encourage the pupils, criticize manuscripts for revision, hear them rehearsed, and grade them. Nevertheless, the system places much more responsibility upon the students and affords them, also, an excellent lesson in Parliamentary Law and the business side of an organization.

Clonian and Philomatheon are the respective names of the societies. By developing the spirit of competition between them we hope to bring out the best work of which they are capable. Each society will be represented by its best talent in the following list of productions, essay, oration, recitation, debate, original story, original poem, extemporaneous speech, piano and vocal solo, and H. S. newspaper. The victor in Oratory will represent L. H. S. at Circleville in May.

MY NEIGHBOR ACROSS THE WAY

Written by Will Waite.

I asked my neighbor across the way what he thought of the way property is advancing in valuation in Logan, he said it ought to be enough for property holders to have the benefit of the enhanced value of their houses, and not to raise the rents on all the laboring and business men. He said he has seven houses to rent, but he did not raise a cent on the rent. He said he would feel like taking food from the children's mouths, if he should raise rents, right in hard times. That he thought that was a good way to keep people away from Logan. Rent was high enough. He asked me why, I supposed, so many people raised their rents. I told him I didn't know. He said he heard they were going to run an early morning train from Lancaster, so Logan laborers could live there in cheap houses.

He said he was reading in the papers about some school children getting burned to death at Cleveland, and that he went up to the school house of our town and looked at the doors. He said he found them all opening out, in both buildings and everything alright. He said while he was up to the school house, he just walked on over to the cemetery, and the mud side-walk from the school house over to the gates of the new cemetery pulled his over-shoes off twice. He asked me why there wasn't a side walk laid along there, and I said I didn't know.

My neighbor, one nice day last week, was cleaning up his lawn and getting ready to plant some flowers, and I remarked that Logan had improved much in the past few years, in pretty lawns and well kept premises. He said he liked to see homes taken care of, but there was not much encouragement in Logan to set out flowers for the dogs to break off. He said he was glad to see a nice park opposite the court house, where the old dog used to be, but he had heard that the dogs had broken off many pretty flowers there last year. He asked me why the dogs are not kept up, in Logan, I told him I didn't know.

WILL WAITE.

High School Contest.

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Opie Reed!
The Slow Poke!
When We Were Friends!
The Yankee Drummers!

"Papa, Fot Would You Take for Me."

She was ready for sleep and she lay on my arm, In her little frilled cap so fine. With her golden hair falling out at the edge, Like a circle of moonshine; And I hummed the old tune of "Banbury Cross," And "Three Men Who Put Out to Sea." When she sleepily said, as she closed her blue eyes "Papa, fot would you take for me?"

And I answered, "A dollar, dear little heart," And she slept, baby, weary with play. But I held her warm in my love-strong arms. And I rocked her and rocked away; Oh, "the dollar" meant all the world to me. The land, and the sea and the sky, The lowest depths of the lowest place, The highest of all that's high.

All the cities with streets and palaces, With their pictures and stories of art, I would not take for one low soft throb Of my little one's loving heart; Not all the gold that was ever found In the busy, wealth-finding past, Would I take for one smile of my darling's face, Did I know it must be the last.

So I rocked my baby and rocked away, And I felt such a sweet content, For the words of the song meant more to me Than they ever before had meant; And the night crept on and I slept and dreamed Of things too gladsome to be, And I wakened with lips saying close to my ear, "Papa, fot would you take for me?"

NOW IS BEST TIME TO TAKE

Directions to Prepare Simple, Home Mixture.

A well-known authority on Rheumatism gives the readers of a large New York daily paper the following valuable, yet simple and harmless prescription, which any one can easily prepare at home:

Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces.

Mix by shaking well in a bottle, and take a teaspoonful after each meal and at bedtime.

He states that the ingredients can be obtained from any good prescription pharmacy at small cost, and, being of vegetable extraction, are harmless to take.

This pleasant mixture, if taken regularly for a few days, is said to overcome almost any case of Rheumatism. The pain and swelling, if any, diminishes with each dose, until permanent results are obtained, and without injuring the stomach. While there are many so-called Rheumatism remedies, patent medicines, etc., some of which do give relief, few really give permanent results, and the above will, no doubt, be greatly appreciated by many sufferers here at this time.

Inquiry at the drug stores of this neighborhood elicits the information that these drugs are harmless and can be bought separately, or the druggists here will mix the prescription for our readers if asked to.

Ohio Tax Payer's Hand Book.

The compilation of this work was undertaken by Mr. Gilbert H. Stewart, Jr., Secretary of the Ohio State Board of Commerce, at my request.

The purpose of the work is to enable any taxpayer to learn precisely how the state and local tax laws of Ohio touch his interest, whatever they may be. This information is of value to all taxpayers, but it is especially valuable to that large number who have investments in many forms and in several counties.

The information contained in this volume is intended, primarily, to benefit the members of the Ohio State Board of Commerce. It is not, therefore, published as a money-making proposition. It will be sold to such membership at cost of publication; one dollar per copy. Three thousand copies have been printed. All copies not required to supply orders from members of this Board will be sold to the general public at three dollars per copy. Ohio State Board of Commerce, Allen R. Foote, Commissioner, Board of Trade Building, Columbus, Ohio.

COULTRAP GETS \$2,500.

Judge Bright, of Logan, May Realize.

(Jackson Sun.)

Probably the greatest suit for libel ever heard in the Common Pleas Court of Jackson county, was that of Judge Henry W. Coultrap, of McArthur, vs the Cincinnati Enquirer which was heard Friday and Saturday by a jury which returned a verdict for plaintiff allowing damages to the extent of \$2500.

The suit grew out of a libelous article published in the Enquirer May last. The article which was written by T. A. McFarland, but transmitted to the Enquirer under the signature and approval of Miss Lucile Sylvester, the Wellston correspondent at that time, related to a suit which had been filed in the Common Pleas Court at McArthur by a merchant named Bothwell, charging Judge Coultrap of malfeasance, while on the Common Pleas bench at McArthur as well as charging Ex-Senator Bright, of Logan, and Attorneys Holland, of McArthur, and McGillivray, of Jackson, co-operating with Coultrap, whereby Bothwell lost \$15,000 through a suit which he had in court at that time. The charges in Bothwell's petition were never proven and the case was thrown out on demurrer; hence the publishing of the article was a repetition of false charges, making it a libelous article.

Attorney Otto E. Vollenweider, of McArthur, was a party defendant with the Enquirer and McFarland but the charges against him were dismissed by plaintiff.

The same charges as those preferred against the Enquirer Company and McFarland are preferred against the Ohio State Journal Company and McFarland, Attorneys Bright, Holland and McGillivray each have similar suits pending against each of the Companies. The Enquirer Company has filed a motion for new trial on different grounds, among which is that of the Jackson County Court not having jurisdiction in the case.

Given up to Die.

B. Spiegel, 1204 N. Virginia St., Evansville, Ind., writes: "For over five years I was troubled with kidney and bladder affections which caused me much pain and worry. I lost flesh and was all run down, and a year ago had to abandon work entirely. I had three of the best physicians who did me no good and I was practically given up to die. Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended and the first bottle gave me great relief, and after taking the second bottle I was entirely cured." Why not let it help you? Bort & Co.

Dr. J. H. Long, Osteopath, of Lancaster will be at Hotel Ambrose on Tuesday and Friday afternoon of each week. Examination and consultation without charge. 3 12, tf.